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TITLE: DEVICE FOR PACKAGING CONTINUOUS WEBS OF MATERIALS SUCH AS SELVEDGES GENERATED ON THERMOFORMING UNITS

Amendment A: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 - 9 (canceled). Please cancel Claims 1 - 9 and substitute Claims 10 - 17 therefor as follows.

10. (new) An apparatus for packaging continuous webs of material comprising:

a means for controlling an input of the webs of material;

a means for guiding and driving the webs of material positioned downstream

of said means for controlling;

a means for cutting the webs of material into pieces , said means for cutting positioned downstream of said means for guiding and driving; and

a means for collecting the pieces positioned downstream of said means for cutting, said means for cutting comprising:

at least one block; and

a cutting blade in which the blade is actuated in a reciprocating movement cooperating with said cutting block, said means for guiding and driving having a means for conveying the pieces by an air flow arranged immediately before the blade and said cutting block.

11. (new) The apparatus of Claim 10, said guiding and driving means comprising a pair of rollers which roll in opposite directions of rotation to each other, said pair of rollers suitable for gripping the web of material and driving the web of material at a predetermined speed toward said means for conveying.

12. (new) The apparatus of Claim 11, said pair of rollers being driven by a pneumatic jack associated with a free wheel and a train of gears.

13. (new) The apparatus of Claim 10,, said means for conveying comprising:  
a part having a generally tubular shape, said part having an inlet end into which the web of material is insertable from said guiding and driving means, said part having an outlet end through which the web of material can pass, at least a portion of an edge of said outlet end being said cutting block.

14. (new) The apparatus of Claim 13, said part being conical so as to narrow from said inlet end to said outlet end.

15. (new) The apparatus of Claim 10, said means for cutting further comprising:  
a pneumatic jack drivingly connected to the cutting blade.

16. (new) The apparatus of Claim 10, further comprising:  
a means for changing a direction of the webs of material positioned upstream of said means for guiding and driving and downstream of said means for controlling, said means for changing a direction comprising a set of pulleys mounted on a ramp.

17. (new) The apparatus of Claim 10, said means for collecting the pieces comprising:

a drawer;

a bag removably mounted on said drawer, said means for cutting having a shutter thereunder; and

a means for unfolding of said shutter when opening said drawer.